

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to the examination of the present application, claims 2-13 are canceled without prejudice or waiver. Claim 1 remains in the application. Examination and consideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

It is submitted that this application is in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6742 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

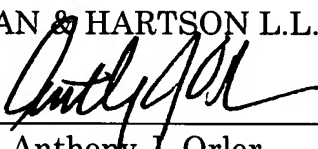
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: February 19, 2004

By: _____


Anthony J. Orler

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